

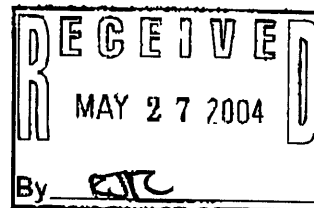
United States Department of Agriculture

E1-858



1835 Assembly Street, Room 950, Columbia, South Carolina 29201

May 24, 2004



Mr. Winn Frank
Parsons Transportation Group
1133 15th Street NW
Washington, DC 20005

RE: STB Finance Docket No. 34421, HolRail LLC-Construction and Operation Orangeburg and Dorchester Counties, South Carolina Request for Comments on Potential Environmental Impacts.

Dear Mr. Frank:

We have reviewed the proposal by HolRail LLC to construct a new rail line across Four Hole Swamp to connect a cement production near Holly Hill, South Carolina with an existing rail line of the Norfolk Southern Railway Company. Prime farmlands and soil of state wide importance are 3.3% and 9.9% of the proposed right-of-way respectively. The prime farmlands and soils of statewide importance are small delineation along the uplands at each end of the proposed right-of-way. The proposed right-of-way does involve potential wetlands through Four Hole Swamp.

If you have any question or need additional information you may contact Gene Hardee at (803) 253-3893.

Please contact Gene Hardee at (803) 253-3893 if you have questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

RONNIE FEASTER
State Resource Conservationist